

221st BSB – Wiesbaden, Wackernheim, Dexheim

Excellence in customer service

Going the extra mile pays off

Editors Note: Each month the 221st Base Support Battalion highlights an employee who has shown extraordinary customer service. The following is noted as the Customer Service Spotlight for the month of December.

By Cassandra Kardeke
221st Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

Issues with military pay can be a hot topic for just about every Soldier, however, one finance employee goes out of her way to ensure Soldiers are aware of their entitlements.

Kelli Robinson, a military pay technician assigned to the in/out-processing section of 8th Finance at Wiesbaden Army Airfield, briefs all incoming and outgoing Soldiers on what to look for when it comes to their pay.

"I don't just hand them a piece of paper and tell them to fill in the blocks when they arrive. I walk them through each step telling them what it is they need to fill in and why," said Robinson.

Having been a pay technician for the past year, Robinson explained that her experience as a spouse for more than 16 years has helped in her understanding of military pay entitlements.

Finding answers is her mission, she said.

"It doesn't matter if this requires her to phone back to the States or research regulations. She provides exemplary customer service by going the extra mile to ensure all needs are met with the customer," said Sgt. Victoria Green, Robinson's supervisor.

Many soldiers are not aware of

all their entitlements, Robinson said. Whether they are arriving or departing from the Wiesbaden community, Robinson takes the time to explain all the documentation needed to ensure Soldiers receive the pay they deserve.

"I guess you could say I'm almost obsessive about it. I have even gone so far as to contact a customer who had already PCS'd to the states to inform him that he didn't receive his full entitlements while here and needed to complete some more paperwork so that he could receive that extra money," Robinson said.

But not all finance customers are happy ones.

"Money is a sensitive issue. When customers get mad, I don't take it personally. I try to kill hostility with kindness," she said.



Photo by Charlie Fontana

'Uh-oh, Here Comes Christmas'

An international troupe of holiday revelers prepares for their upcoming performances of "Uh-oh, Here Comes Christmas." The actors (from left) are Anne Garmon, Steve Spears, Anna Gardner, Philipp Wiesenaecker and Sue Paramore. The theatrical production celebrating the holidays in story and song will be performed in English at the Amelia Earhart Playhouse on Konrad-Adenauer Ring in Wiesbaden Dec. 9-12. For tickets and reservations call mil 336-2473 or civ (0611) 816-2473.



Photo by Peter Witmer

Dancing for education

Members of Wiesbaden's General H.H. Arnold High School Dance Team perform for more than 400 students and parents at the Heinrich von Brentano School Nov. 20 during the school's open house. The high school band (led by Steve Fedric) and a German-American rock combo called the "Hochheim No Names" also performed. The German school in Hochheim, located about 10 minutes by car from Wiesbaden, has formed a partnership with the Wiesbaden American Middle School and will host a student exchange program later this year.

For inclement weather information, news about road conditions, delays and facility closures call civ (0611) 705-7245 or mil 337-7245.

Holiday happenings

Dexheim tree lighting

The annual Dexheim tree lighting ceremony will be held at 6 p.m. Dec. 9 on the sports field next to the 123rd Main Support Battalion headquarters followed by plenty of fun for children at Dexheim Fitness Center.

Holiday Assistance Program

Wiesbaden/Dexheim Army Community Service is coordinating this year's Holiday Assistance Program. The program will provide food vouchers and Christmas gifts for children age 12 and under for qualified military and Department of Defense families in the community. ACS will accept donations through Dec. 15. Children's gifts and monetary donations are sought. Angel trees are located in several locations throughout the Wiesbaden/Dexheim communities. On the back of each card will be the age of a child, gender and the child's wish (not to exceed \$20). You can fulfill a child's wish simply by taking the angel card and returning it with a gift to one of the collection points. For more information call Bob Williams in Wiesbaden at mil 337-5034/5754 or Eric Harris in Dexheim at mil 344-5578/5716.

WCSC luncheon

The Wiesbaden Community Spouses Club hosts its monthly luncheon Dec. 15. Reservations are required by Dec. 8. Call civ (0611) 736 6989 for more information.

Brunch with Santa

Bring the children to brunch with Santa Claus at the Rheinlander Club Dec. 12 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Reservations are required for groups of 10 or more. Call mil 334-5712 or civ (06133) 69-712 for more information.

Holiday parties

Celebrate the Christmas holidays at Römer

Art Center Dec. 11 from 6-9 p.m. with festive music and readings of cherished holiday stories. Reservations are required. Call mil 337-5722 or civ (0611) 705-5722.

Share holiday cheer with friends at the Kastel Klub at Mainz-Kastel Storage Station during their holiday party Dec. 17.

New Year's party

Ring in the new year at the Wiesbaden Community Activity Center's New Year's Eve party Dec. 31. Doors open at 7 p.m. Enjoy hot appetizers, a DJ and a champagne toast at midnight. For advance tickets call mil 337-5750 or civ (0611) 705-5750.

Religious services

Team 221st Chapels offer a variety of religious services throughout the coming holiday season. **Feast of Immaculate Conception Mass** from noon to 1 p.m. and 6-7 p.m. Dec. 8 at Hainerberg Chapel; **Spanish Mass** from 5-6 p.m. at the Wiesbaden Army Airfield Chapel Dec. 12; **Children's Christmas Musical** at the Hainerberg Chapel from 5-7 p.m. Dec. 12; **Catholic Penance Service** from 6-7 p.m. Dec. 15 at the Hainerberg Chapel; **Ecumenical Christmas service** from noon to 1 p.m. Dec. 23 at the Wiesbaden Army Airfield Chapel; **Children's Christmas Eve Mass** from 5-6 p.m. Dec. 24 at Hainerberg Chapel; **Gospel Candlelight Service** from 5-7 p.m. at the Wiesbaden Army Airfield Chapel Dec. 24; **Protestant Candlelight Service** from 7-8 p.m. Dec. 24 at Hainerberg Chapel; **Christmas Eve Mass** at Dexheim Chapel from 6-7 p.m. Dec. 24; **Midnight Mass** from 11:30 p.m. 12:30 a.m. at Hainerberg Chapel Dec. 24; **Christmas Day Mass** from 9 a.m. to noon at Hainerberg Chapel Dec. 25; **Gospel Watch Night Service** from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Dec. 31 at Wiesbaden Army Airfield Chapel; and **Feast of Mary Mass** from noon to 1 p.m. at Hainerberg Chapel Jan. 1.

221st BSB – Wiesbaden, Wackernheim, Dexheim



Photo by Wendy Zierle

Members of the Wiesbaden Eagles junior soccer team hold up trophies after being named the Armed Forces Europe champion soccer team. The team traveled to Camp Darby, Italy, in November to compete in the U.S. forces playoffs and won the championship.

Wiesbaden youths dominate soccer playoffs

By Cassandra Kardeke
221st Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

Youth Services soccer playoffs for both the Bantam and Junior leagues culminated in a double victory for Wiesbaden youth.

The Wiesbaden All-Stars were named the 104th Area Support Group champions after beating

Hanau 5-1 Nov. 7. The Bantam team is made up of 15 members ranging in age from 10-12.

"Although we were undefeated the entire season, it was the BSB championship we struggled through in order to compete for the ASG championship," said head coach Sven Janneck.

The Bantam team wasn't the only



Photo by Dora Traynor

Wiesbaden all-star bantam soccer players cheer following their win against Hanau during the 104th Area Support Group Youth Services soccer championship in which the players were named the ASG champions.

team returning to Wiesbaden victorious. After four days of soccer playoffs at Camp Darby, Italy, the Wiesbaden Eagles were named the Armed Forces-Europe champions after beating Vilseck, 4-3, Nov. 14.

"This was a team effort. These kids did exceptionally well throughout the entire season," said head coach Tod Corrigan. With over 15

years coaching experience and 30 years playing soccer, Corrigan began volunteering to coach for YS sports last year.

"My goal is to train these kids to be prepared for high school sports. There is no 'trying out' for the team in Youth Services. Everyone gets to play. But once they get to high school they need to really have the

fundamentals and basics down," Corrigan said.

Youth Services offers several sports programs for all ages throughout the year. Children must be registered with YS to participate in programs. For registration information or to volunteer as a coach call mil 337-5383 or civ (0611) 705-5383.

Supporting the Dexheim Area Support Team

Despite geographical separation, BSB strives to ensure same quality of life in rural outpost

By Karen Edge
221st Base Support Battalion Public Affairs
Office

Soldiers, civilians and family members working and living at an Area Support Team tend to endure longer commutes, limited services and sometimes a sense of detachment from their parenting Base Support Battalion. This is not the case at the Dexheim Anderson Barracks AST.

Most ASTs are a 20 minute to one hour drive from the parenting BSB or Area Support Group.

"Because of their remote location, or distance to main support facilities, ASTs are actually entitled to more consideration than locations with a less than 30 minute commute," said Lt. Col. Christopher Franks, commander of the 221st Base Support Battalion, Dexheim's parenting BSB.

With a parenting BSB commanded by a Soldier acclaimed to have put the word "support" back into the BSB and an AST manager who doesn't take no for an answer, tenants at this AST are taken care of and experience a small town community atmosphere where residents work together with the command to improve their quality of life.

The gratitude of residents at town forums

and through the commander's hotline is a reflection of Rey Voisine, Dexheim Anderson Barracks AST manager, who works daily seeing to the health, welfare and recreational needs of his tenants.

"My top priority has always been to make people feel good about working, soldiering and living 'away from the flagpole,' in a German, rural-farming-area," said Voisine. "My mission has always been and will always be to provide quality facilities and services that are the best in U.S. Army Europe."

Located near Dexheim, a small village situated near the Rhein River, Anderson Barracks is home to the 1st Armored Division's 123rd Main Support Battalion. The casern has a small exchange shopping center, commissary, post office, shuttle bus, Class VI store, community bank, snack bar, library, bowling alley, theater, recreation center with many hobby facilities, tennis court and gymnasium. There is also a new modern medical and dental clinic on post.

More renovations and improvements are

in the works.

With less than 1,000 Soldiers at Dexheim's Anderson Barracks one might assume difficulty arises when it comes to getting funding for quality of life improvements, building repairs and new roads. However Franks disagreed.

"My top priority has always been to make people feel good about working, soldiering and living 'away from the flagpole,' in a German, rural-farming-area." — Rey Voisine, Dexheim Area Support Team manager

"I consider the Dexheim AST equal according to population in the prioritization of projects within the footprint. My goal and charter is to ensure that they get their fair share of the resources," said Franks.

The current priority for Dexheim is getting the theater renovated which is expected to be done early in 2005 if funding is near the level requested by the BSB, said Franks. The two greatest successes in Dexheim to date are the repair of the barracks during the deployment of 123rd MSB and the addition of a connecting road between main post and the housing area.

"These two projects contributed signifi-

cantly to improving the quality of life, safety and force protection for all members of the Dexheim community," Franks said. Voisine, who sees himself as the commander's eyes and ears in Dexheim, said that in the past, getting funding for much needed quality of life improvements had been difficult,

especially since the AST has no budget other than what is included in the 221st BSB command budget. But he sees a difference now.

"People are feeling good about working, soldiering, recreating and living in a small community that is prospering," Voisine said.

Accomplishments made in Dexheim are credited to Voisine and Dexheim staff working closely together with the BSB as well as having a commander who appreciates what the AST represents.

"Dexheim is truly a unique community in Europe. It is a casern composed of entirely one unit and this creates and foster a supportive environment where all pitch in to ensure the community is the best it can be. I wish all caserns in Wiesbaden were as cohesive and cooperative as Dexheim," Franks said.

Dog owners must heed German laws

By Cassandra Kardeke
221st Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

Dogs may be known as man's best friend, but not all dogs are known to be friendly.

In Germany there is an import ban on specific dogs that are considered dangerous or "fighting dogs."

"Certain breeds or crossbreeds of dogs are banned from being imported into Germany," said Spc. James Baker, a customs official with the 560th Military Police Customs office at Wiesbaden Army Airfield.

Because of dog attacks on humans, the German state and federal governments have banned the following breeds from being brought into Germany: Pit Bull Terrier, American Staffordshire-Terrier, Staffordshire Bull Terrier and Bull Terrier. Dogs of other breeds may also not be imported from another country if they are considered dangerous by the regulations of the state in which the dog will primarily live.

Although each state in Germany

maintains its own regulations on what dogs are banned, the most popular breeds that regularly appear on these lists include the American Bulldog, Bullmastiff, Mastiff and Pitbull Bandog.

Exceptions to the policy exist only for working dogs and guide-dogs for disabled people; however, the owner must have a certificate of origin, vaccination pass, behavior test certification and any other documents required by the local public safety office.

When bringing dogs or cats with you to Germany, a maximum of three is allowed. Although there is no quarantine, proof of rabies vaccination is required.

"The vaccination must have occurred at least 30 days prior, but no more than 12 months before entry into Germany," said Baker.

Pet owners can contact their local public safety office (Ordnungsamt) or the Customs Office at Wiesbaden Army Airfield, mil337-5188 or civ(0611)705-5188, for more information.



Screenings aid students

By Cassandra Kardeke
221st Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

Students at Wiesbaden American Middle School received a healthy dose of preventive medicine thanks to the combined efforts of the military medical community, medical volunteers and school staff.

Over 400 students received vision, hearing and dental screening as well as weight, height and blood pressure checks during the school's annual health screening Nov. 16-18.

"Students must be able to perform at their optimal potential in school, and the basis for performance begins with health," said Elizabeth Williams, school nurse and coordinator for the screening.

With the help of Dr. Jinjong Chung, Wiesbaden Health Clinic optometrist, and Dr. Luiz Muniz, Army and Air Force Exchange Service chief of optometry, 78 referrals for complete eye exams were sent home to parents following the initial screening. All students received tips on dental hygiene and a new toothbrush after receiving a quick dental check.

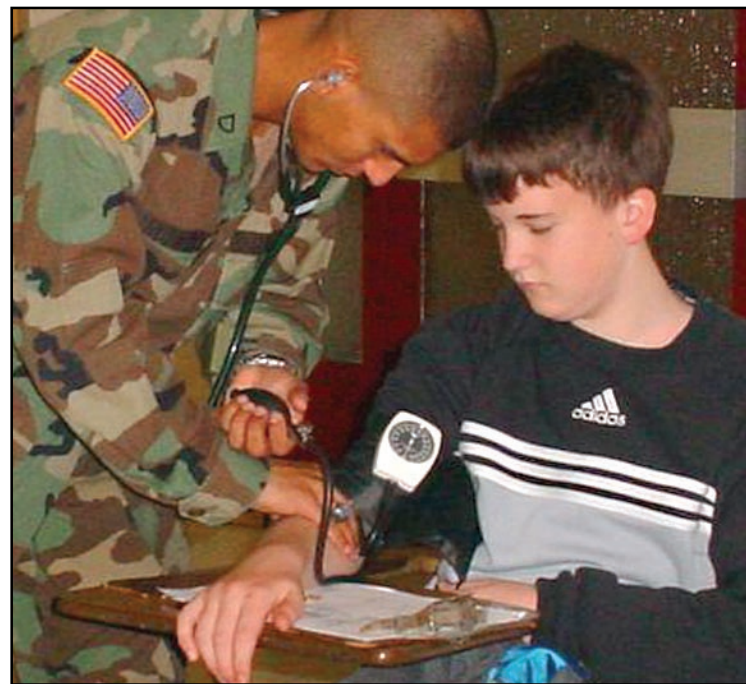


Photo by Sally Jones

Pfc. Adam Cardenas checks Jake Fountain's blood pressure during a health screening at Wiesbaden American Middle School.

Seven referrals for further dental work were sent home to parents.

"Wiesbaden Middle School has a strong relationship with our partnership unit, the 421st Medical Evacuation Battalion, and we could not have accomplished this without their able assistance and support," said Williams.

All in all, 29 volunteers, including 18 Soldiers, gave of their time to conduct the school-wide screening. Units involved were the 421st Medevac, 159th Medical Evacuation Battalion, Early Development and Intervention Services, Wiesbaden Health and Dental Clinics and AAFES.

221st BSB – Wiesbaden, Wackernheim, Dexheim

Community news notes

Help needed

The Wiesbaden Community Mailroom needs volunteers to help with the rush of holiday mail. Volunteers must be at least 14 years old and can be flexible with the amount of time they can help. Stop by the CMR to get started.

Town forums set

Community Town Halls will be held at General H.H. Arnold High School for the Wiesbaden Community at 5:30 p.m. Dec. 8 and at the Rheinlander Club in Dexheim Dec. 15 at 6 p.m.

Singers wanted

The Sweet Adelines, Hearts of Hessen, women's barbershop group is looking for new members. Previous singing experience is recommended. Barbershop singing experience is not necessary. This German-American group rehearses Monday evenings in Wiesbaden.

For more information call mil 322-8851 or civ (06181) 5008820 or (0611) 86748.

Absentee policy

Department of Defense Dependent Schools now requires parents to contact the school when students will be absent for the day. Contact may be made the morning of the absence or earlier if parents are aware of events that will keep their child out of school.

IACS in Dexheim

Registration for the Installation Access Control System is now available in Dexheim every Wednesday from 9 a.m. to noon. The IACS office is located in Building 6317, Room 106 (Military Police Station).

Jewish services

Jewish services are held every Friday at 7:30 p.m. at the Wiesbaden Army Airfield Chapel. Judaism 101 classes will be held every Tuesday

evening at 7 p.m. For more information call mil 337-1570 or civ (0611) 705-1570.

Lunch buffet

The Rheinlander Club at Anderson Barracks in Dexheim hosts an all-you-can-eat lunch buffet with a variety of meats, pasta, salads and side dishes Dec. 22 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Marathon school

Join Team 221st Sports and Fitness and prepare for the next big race. The Tony Bass Fitness Center at Wiesbaden Army Airfield hosts marathon training which includes instructor-led runs, books, nutrition and sports medicine classes as well as meetings five days a week. For more information call mil 337-5943 or civ (0611) 705-5943.

Skiing in the Alps

Join Team 221st Outdoor Recreation this ski season for trips to Engelberg, Switzerland, Dec. 11 and 18. Buses leave at 4 a.m. and return around 11:30 p.m. For more information or to sign up call mil 337-5760 or (0611) 705-5760.

Employment readiness

Dexheim Army Community Service offers free Resumix classes from 3-4 p.m. Dec. 9 and 16. All classes meet in Building 6460 at Anderson Barracks. For more information call mil 334-5646.

Red Cross classes

Babysitter training, healthy pregnancy, CPR and volunteer orientations classes are offered by Wiesbaden Red Cross. To find out dates, times and to sign up for upcoming classes call mil 337-1760 or civ (0611) 705-1760.

Playgroup at chapel

Little Lambs prayer and playgroup is held from 10 a.m. to noon Tuesdays at the Hainerberg

Chapel. Parents must remain with the child during the playtime and bring a snack or drink for their toddler. For more information call mil 337-1570 or civ (0611) 705-1570.

Fitness classes

A wide variety of fitness classes are offered every day by Team 221st Sports and Fitness. Learn to do pilates, yoga, kickboxing and more. **Yoga** classes are held at the Tony Bass Fitness Center at 6:45 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, 11 a.m. Thursday and 9:30 a.m. Friday. **Tai Chi** classes are held at 7:45 p.m. Thursday as well as other martial arts classes. **Ving Tsun Kung Fu** is held at 7:45 p.m. Monday and Wednesday at Tony Bass Fitness Center, **Northern Praying Mantis Kung Fu** at 7:45 p.m. Tuesday and **Buj In Kan Budo Tai Ju Tsu** at 5:30 p.m. at McCully Barracks fitness center on Wednesday at 5:30 p.m. Marital arts classes cost \$10 each or 12 for \$100. **Aerobics** classes are also held every Monday and Wednesday at 4 p.m. at Hainerberg Elementary School. **Indoor cycling** is held at 6:45 a.m. and 5:45 p.m. every Monday and Wednesday and at 9:30 a.m. every Tuesday and Thursday. For more information on classes and programs call mil 337-5943 or civ (0611) 705-5943.

Young athlete training

The Tony Bass Fitness Center offers young athlete strength and speed training for individuals, groups or teams specifically designed to help enhance young athletes skills and performance. Call mil 337-5943 or civ (0611) 705-5943 for more information.

Holiday massage specials

Holiday health and wellness gift certificates are now available through Team 221st Sports and Fit-

ness. Services include Swedish massage, peppermint leg and foot treatments and hot stone massage therapy. Call civ (0160) 640 5187 or (0179) 903 6996 to find out more about massage and spa treatment therapies.

AA meetings

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings are held at the Wiesbaden Army Airfield Community Counseling Center at Building 1526 every Wednesday at 7 p.m. For information on other AA meetings call the Army Substance Abuse Program coordinator at mil 337-1710 or civ (0611) 705-1710.

Soldiers club meets in Wiesbaden

The Sgt. Morales club meets the first Wednesday of the month in Room 210 of the Welcome Center at Wiesbaden Army Airfield at 2 p.m. All Sgt. Morales and Sgt. Audie Murphy inductees are welcome to attend. For more information call civ (0160) 9211 2266.

Emergency care providers needed

Army Community Service seeks emergency placement and respite care providers. Anyone interested in volunteering their home and time to provide care should call mil 337-5034 or civ (0611) 705-5034.

Free lunch program

Applications are being accepted for the free and reduced school lunch program at the 221st Base Support Battalion School Support Office. To find out if your children are eligible for the program call mil 337-7004 or civ (0611) 705-7004.

Balloon Shop open

An all occasion Balloon Shop is now open at the Community Activity Center with over 200 mylar and latex balloons to choose from. To order a balloon bouquet stop by the shop, call mil 337-5750 or civ (0611) 705-5750.

EFMP support

Join the Exceptional Family Program support group the first Wednesday of each month from noon to 1 p.m. in Room 22 at Army Community Service, Building 7790 in Hainerberg Housing. For more information call mil 337-5034 or civ (0611) 705-5034.

Victim support offered

If you are a victim of domestic violence, help is available. Contact the Victim Advocacy program coordinator at mil 337-5034 or civ (0611) 705-5034.

222nd BSB — Baumholder, Neubrück, Strassburg

Swimming lessons

Registration for Community Youth Services swimming lessons is ongoing through Dec. 10. Classes will be held Dec. 13-16 and 20-23. All participants must be registered with CYS. For more information call CYC at mil 485-7003 or civ (06783) 6-7003.

Sports

Unit level basketball continues through Dec. 16, Mondays through Thursdays at 6, 7 and 8 p.m.

The deadline to sign up for the three-on-three basketball and beginner's racquetball tournaments is Dec. 17.

Community level basketball practice is held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 6 p.m.

Spouses club luncheon

The Baumholder Community Spouses Club Winter Wishes Luncheon is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. Dec. 15 at the Rheinlander. The luncheon is for members only. New members may make reservations and join the day of luncheon. Send reservations to jillwatson@us.army.mil. Dues are \$15 annually.

Thrift Shop hours

The Thrift Shop, located in Building 8270, is open Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The shop is closed during U.S. Army Europe training holidays and federal holidays. For more information call mil 485-6653.

Community mail room

The community mail room is now open on Saturdays through Dec. 18 from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Register for college

Term three college registration is ongoing from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the education center. Classes begin Jan. 17 and end March 11. For more information call mil 485-7557.

Christmas markets in and around Baumholder

Local Christmas markets include:

- St. Wendel, through Dec. 12
- Kusel, Dec. 7

For more information on Christmas Markets visit <http://deutscher-weihnachtszauber.com/christmasmarkets.htm>.

ACS classes

The following classes are offered by Army Community Service in December. Make reservations for these classes by calling mil 485-8188.

EFMP

Holiday Cookie Decorating — Dec. 20 from 2-4 p.m. This event is open to all Exceptional Family Member Program members and anyone wanting to learn more about EFMP. Let your children decorate, eat and take home holiday cookies, while you obtain more information about EFMP. In order to ensure there will be enough cookies be sure to sign up in advance of the class.

Employment Readiness

Ten Steps to a Federal Job — Dec. 7 and 14 from 10 a.m. to noon. This class teaches students how to navigate through the federal job system.

Happenings



Photo by LeAnne MacAllister

'Tis the season

Liz Larsen and Helen Williams usher in the holiday season by helping to decorate the Christmas tree in the lobby of the Rheinlander Club. Every year members of the club help decorate the Rheinlander tree. This year Larsen and Williams volunteered for the job and chose "A Winter Wonderland" as their theme.

Parenting Programs

● Parents and Tots Playgroup (birth to pre-school) — Dec. 13 and 20 from 10-11:30 a.m., Iron Kids Play Room, Building 8222. New Parent Education and Support Program personnel conduct the play morning. It is an opportunity for families with small children to interact with their children and socialize with others in play.

● Empowering Nurturing Parents — Dec. 7 and 14 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Iron Kids Play Room. This class is the follow-up support program for those parents who have completed the 12 week nurturing parenting course.

● Coffee Break — Dec. 8 and 15 from 10-11:30 a.m. This is a support group for military spouses and couples.

● Infant Care and Breastfeeding — will be held by appointment only.

● Boot Camp for Dads — every Thursday from 2-4 p.m. This is a four week instructional program for new dads. The program is offered at the Iron Kids Play Room. The Dec. 9 class is "Daddy Day Care" and the Dec. 16 class is "Babies Aren't Made of Glass."

Couples Relationships

● Maintaining Love in a Healthy Relationship — Dec. 14 and 21 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. This class is designed to help couples rekindle strong relationships that might have lost their spark. These classes focus on get-

ting back to strong relationships and renewing bonds of friendship and love between the couple. Topics include: Interpersonal Communication Dec. 14; and Love and Intimacy Dec. 21.

● Happily Ever After-Adjusting to New Marriage — Dec. 8 and 15 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. This class is targeted to new couples and young married people in the process of learning to be a couple. Communicating as a Couple is featured Dec. 8; Our Money is the topic for Dec. 15.

● Anger, Stress, and Conflict Resolution — Dec. 9 and 16 from 9-11 a.m. This class is open to anyone interested in learning to better manage their anger and stress.

Financial Readiness

● Successful Money Management — Dec. 14 and 21 from 9-11 a.m. Participants will learn how to identify, solve and avoid the major causes of financial problems, make an effective spending plan and select and manage credit.

● Getting Out Of Debt — Dec. 8 from 9-11 a.m. Tired of using today's paycheck to pay old credit card purchases? Let us show you how to get out of debt, and stay out of debt, the quickest and cheapest way using Power Payments.

● Living and Saving on a Shoestring — Dec. 15 from 9-11 a.m. Do you sometimes run out of money before you run out of month?

Tips are offered to make your paycheck stretch to meet your needs.

Team building

● Army Family Team Building — AFTB level 1 Dec. 16 from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. This training is for new members to the military or those looking for more current information. This training provides an opportunity for Army family members to gain initial knowledge about Army organizations resources, and benefits.

Youth trips, events

● Dec. 23, middle school and holiday teen party for sixth- to 12th-graders, 4-8 p.m., free admission Dec. 18, trip to Christmas market in Trier for sixth- to 12th-graders, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

● Dec. 21, swimming at Cascade Pool in Bitburg for sixth- to 12th-graders, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

● Dec. 28, swimming at Monte Mare in Kaiserslautern for sixth- to 12th-graders, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., \$10 plus spending money

● Dec. 29, ice skating in Saarbrücken for sixth- to 12th-graders, 2-8 p.m.

● Dec. 30, middle school and teen pre-New Years Eve bash for 6th-12th grade, at the Underground, 5-9 p.m., Teen Cafe, 6-10 p.m., free admission.

All participants must be registered with Child and Youth Services, and a signed permission slip must be turned in one week before each trip or event.

For more information contact your local youth center or call the Youth Services administration office at mil 485-7276 or civ (06783) 6-7276.

Volunteers needed

Youth Services is looking for volunteers, youth and adult, to assist with special interest clubs, sporting and recreational events. For more information call mil 485-7276 or civ (06783) 6-7276.

Instructors needed

Youth Services is always looking for qualified instructors to contract in instructional areas such as martial arts, music, tennis and more. For details call mil 485-7276 or civ (06783) 6-7276.

A free ride

Registered youth, in sixth- to 12th-grade, can use the free Child and Youth Services bus between the youth centers and outlying areas. Attending the Youth Services facilities is free. Come and check your email, play games, use art materials, join clubs or have a snack. For more information on any of these events call Steve Ferguson at mil 485-8249/7276.

Torch Club

Torch Clubs are chartered small-group leadership and service clubs for boys and girls age 11-13. The Torch Club is a powerful vehicle through which club staff can help meet the special needs of younger adolescents at a critical stage in their development. Torch Club members learn to elect officers and work together to plan and implement activities in four areas: Service to club and community, education, health and fitness and social recreation.

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Be ready when bad weather arrives

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

222nd Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

The telltale signs of winter are here. Colder temperatures, slippery roads, having to scrape ice off the car windshield and finding only one crusty and somewhat moldy glove from last year in your winter jacket all signal the arrival of the first real snowfall of the season. Although Baumholder has already received a light coating of snow this year, one should not assume the worst is over.

Despite the many precautions, briefings and the gradually cooling temperatures, the first white flakes and icy roads catch many who are not used to inclement weather by surprise. When the reality of winter finally hits home, AAFES will be the best place to find ice scrapers, antifreeze, lock de-icing spray for your car doors and maybe a new pair of soft, mold-free gloves.

Persons new to Germany and to inclement weather conditions will find that the radio will be their best friend and source of up-to-date weather information.

When inclement weather hits a community, the road conditions and any delays or cancellations in work, schools or other community services as determined by the local commander are promptly reported to AFN radio.

By about 5 a.m. the AFN affiliates in Kaiserslautern and Frankfurt begin airing inclement weather conditions and other pertinent information.

When inclement weather is expected AFN radio will also issue

advisories so that people may plan accordingly and take the necessary precautions.

Baumholder also reports weather conditions on the Baumholder Information Channel as soon as they become available. Tune your television to the Baumholder Information Channel and watch for weather reports on the ticker tape at the bottom of the screen.

Community residents should not call the Military Police as the influx of calls will tie up the phone lines and prevent their timely response to a possible emergency.

Confusion also breaks out annually when residents begin to try and interpret the definition of the color coded road conditions that are reported by AFN and who they apply to.

During adverse weather conditions people often mistakenly believe a road condition advisory such as "Amber" or "Red" applies to all motorists. This is not the case. Here are a few facts that may help.

The most common weather related report heard over AFN radio and television and other alert channels pertains to road conditions. A road condition report applies only to military vehicles and restricts operators to various degrees of travel. It does not apply to civilian vehicles. Motorists traveling to work in their own cars should use road condition announcements to help them take appropriate safety measures when traveling to and from work.

Some AFN affiliates will report actual road condition, like icy, slippery, snow covered, etc., instead of color coded conditions for military

vehicles. These notices may be used by motorists driving their personal vehicles to determine appropriate travel plans.

To obtain road conditions during duty hours, call your unit or the 222nd Base Support Battalion operations officer at mil 485-1530. After duty hours, call the 222nd BSB staff duty personnel at mil 485-6150 or civ (06783) 6-6150.

AFN Kaiserslautern can be heard by tuning your radio to: 100.2 FM, or 1107 AM.

To receive information from AFN Frankfurt, turn your radio to: 98.7 FM or 873 AM.

Road conditions are also heard in English on the German radio station RPR 1 at frequencies 98.1 FM, or 103.3 FM.

Another announcement often heard during adverse weather is a delay in reporting to work. If, for example, AFN reports that all Baumholder personnel are authorized a two-hour delay in reporting to work, this means that motorists have two additional hours to report

to work. It doesn't mean people should roll over and go back to sleep.

The intent of a delay is to allow persons who don't live close to their work a reasonable amount of time to report to work in a safe manner. Those who live on post or do not commute are expected to report to work on time.

The third and most extreme action a commander may take is to close an installation as a result of dangerous weather conditions. This means that all facilities are closed — including schools, commissaries, exchanges and shopettes.

It does not mean everyone has a day off to go shopping or run errands. For one, all these places will be closed. People should not be out on the road during extreme inclement weather.

During a post closure or a delay, military and civilian mission-essential personnel should coordinate their reporting time with their chain of command as appropriate.

Another aspect of closures and delays is the accountability for missed work hours. Military members do not need to record this downtime. However if a military member was on leave during a closure, that day will be counted as leave.

Civilian employees are placed on administrative leave during a post closure. Those on leave during a closure will remain on leave, just as military members. This applies to American and local national civilian employees.

A post closure does not affect the leave status that a member might be on during that time. Civilian employees who don't live near their place of work may determine on their own if they can make it to work or not.

If civilian employees think it is unsafe to travel, they must report that time as regular leave (except during a post closure) and tell their supervisors.

The bottom line is — use common sense.

Happenings

Continued from page 10

Keystone Club

Keystoning is the Boys and Girls Club's most dynamic teen program. Keystone Clubs are chartered small-group leadership and service for boys and girls age 14-18. Keystoners elect officers and plan and implement their own activities in six areas: Service to club and community, leadership development, education and career fitness, club exploration, unity, free enterprise and social recreation. Keystone Club members and national Teen Supreme Keystone Conferences are attended by thousands of

Keystoners each year.

Teen Sports Club

The Teen Sports Club is a teen leadership group that promotes health, fitness and sports-related careers in boys and girls clubs. Members meet on a regular basis to learn about issues inside and outside their club related to sports and fitness. Club members, age 13-18 volunteer at least 25 hours as referees, coaches or in other athletic department support roles. Club leaders can attend Sports Leadership Camps in each of the Boys and Girls Clubs five regions after the completion of 25 volunteer hours.



Germans and Americans remember the fallen

Members of the German Westrich reservist association salute the Fallen Soldiers Memorial in front of the 222nd Base Support Battalion headquarters. Together with their American partnership unit, the 90th Personnel Service Battalion, they placed wreaths at the memorial during the German memorial day observance. In remembrance and as a memorial to fallen Soldiers of various wars, wreaths were placed at the memorial in the Baumholder local cemetery and at the new memorial for fallen Soldiers of the war in Iraq. A minute of silence was also observed for the fallen. The event demonstrated the strong relationship and friendship between the German reservists of the Westrich region and their American partnership battalion, particularly on such a commemorative day of the year, officials said.

222nd BSB — Baumholder, Neubrück, Strassburg



Officers serve the Thanksgiving meal at Baumholder's 2nd Brigade Dining Facility.

Photos by LeAnne MacAllister

Soldiers, families gather to give thanks

By LeAnne MacAllister
222nd Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office

It was a feast fit for kings — or, in Baumholder's case, Soldiers. That's what the three dining facilities serving the 222nd Base Support Battalion dished up on Thanksgiving. Long before the sun came up, the dining facility staff was cooking for the thousands of guests who made their way over to give thanks

and celebrate one of the United States' most cherished holidays.

Col. Michael Tucker, 1st Armored Division assistant division commander for maneuvers, visited the kitchen staff at all three dining facilities during prep time, and then returned in his blues to help serve.

The Strassburg, Division Artillery and 2nd Brigade dining facilities received assistance from many officers and NCOs wearing their dress blues, partaking in the tradi-

tion of serving their Soldiers on Thanksgiving.

The turnout was so high that the volunteers had to take turns serving within their unit's hour of allotted time.

The Baumholder community dining facilities went well beyond food to please their diners. Non-alcoholic Glühwein and hot cocoa were offered on the back porch of one dining facility.

A common theme of 2nd

Brigade's table talk was guessing as to where the turkeys and sheep sounding off and licking guests at the entrance came from. Rumor has it they belong to the Directorate of Logistics.

Amidst the fun Soldiers reflected on Maj. Gen. Martin E. Dempsey's message — "I hope each of you will give a little extra thought this year to the things in your life for which you are most thankful.

"It is, after all, our irrepressible

optimism and appreciation for our many blessings that sets us apart as Americans and Soldiers."

"Two years ago we were trying to keep dry and warm in Grafenwöhr while eating our soggy food," said one 40th Engineer Battalion noncommissioned officer greeting guests. "Last year we were in Iraq; so this year we truly have a lot to be thankful for."



Col. Michael Tucker, 1st Armored Division assistant division commander for maneuvers, serves a family member at the 2nd Brigade Dining Facility.



A family member samples the alcohol-free Glühwein.

Children flipping over new program

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

**222nd Base Support Battalion
Public Affairs Office**

The latest attraction for Baumholder youths already has several children doing cartwheels and standing on their hands. The new gymnastics class for novice and levels one and two started Nov. 29 at the Neubrücke youth center.

"We are very excited about the program," said Sarah Corbett, gymnastics instructor. "It's just a great program to offer to the community, and it's a good opportunity for kids to develop good self-esteem, some basic muscle foundations and work on coordination and balance. I'm really excited. I'm also excited to be coaching again."

Since this is a new program, Corbett said children will be learning the basic skills they need in order to



Sarah Corbett

begin competing. "I've been speaking with another gym in the area and we're talking about having competitions and actual meets so the kids get a chance to go out and perform the skills that they've learned, which would be just great for confidence and a sense of achievement for the kids," she said.

Traditionally gymnastic stu-

dents do not begin competing until they have achieved level seven, but Corbett explained that the sport has undergone several changes that will affect the program now being offered and make gymnastics more enjoyable for the children. "They are allowing them (younger students) to compete at older levels. So they get to essentially play the game at a younger age with just basic skill levels," she said.

"The goal of each class is to have fun, develop self-esteem and learn fundamental gymnastic skills," said Corbett.

"Right now we have approximately 20 kids enrolled in the program and we're expecting a higher turnout when the next session starts up," she said. "This is more of a beginner session. The kids who complete the session that we're running now will get a certificate of

completion so when the next program starts up they don't start back at square one. They will get to advance and improve the skills they learned."

The next session will be a summer program. It will start just as school is finishing and will run for approximately three months. It will be a longer session compared to the current program that runs for about eight weeks.

Corbett has three years experience coaching novice and levels one through six gymnastics in Woburn, Mass. She has also taught a toddler program for preschool students at Medford, Mass. She has coached both recreational and

competitive programs.

"Since I was a little girl, gymnastics has always been my passion, so I've always stayed right on top of it and have kept up with changes in the sport," she said.

Corbett added that she has also coached children in figure skating, Special Olympics basketball and diving. "Gymnastics is my specialty though," she said.

Before coaching gymnastics, Corbett competed as a level nine gymnast for more than eight years and participated in private and public high school gymnastics programs. "I went on to become a diver in college and competed in NCAA Nationals," she said.



Photo by LeAnne MacAllister

Koy Randall warms up for his first class with a few stretching exercises on the floor mat.



Photo by LeAnne MacAllister

Sarah Corbett steadies Elizabeth Wuerch on the balance beam.